

Remarks/Arguments:

The above Amendments and these Remarks are in reply to the Office Action mailed September 10, 2008.

Claims 1-8 and 25-31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter.

Claims 1-8 and 25-31 have been amended to be system claims and to add the feature that “the system includes at least one processor that executes the software framework”. For this reason, these claims are believed to be statutory.

Claims 9-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter.

Claims 1-2, 4, 6-10, 12, 14-18, 20, 22-25, 27 and 29-31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Huang et al., “Agent-based workflow management in collaborative product development on the Internet”, Computer-Aided Design, 32, 2000, pages 133-144.

Claims 3, 5, 11, 13, 19, 21, 26 and 28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Huang, et al., and in further view of Tolksdorf, “Workspaces: A Web-Based Workflow Management System”, IEEE Internet Computing, 2002.

Claims 1, 9, 17 and 25 have been amended to add the feature that “a graphical representation of the control can be put in a graphical canvas to be connected to other controls in a flow of control, the control exposes one or more interfaces to allow access to functionality within the control”. This feature is not shown or made obvious by any of the cited prior art.

For this reason, these claims are believed to be allowable.

In light of the above, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims now pending in the subject patent application should be allowable, and a Notice of Allowance is requested. The Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned if he can assist in any way in expediting issuance of a patent.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any underpayment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 06-1325 for any matter in connection with this response, including any fee for extension of time, which may be required.

Respectfully submitted,

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By: /Joseph P. O'Malley/
Joseph P. O'Malley
Reg. No. 36,226

Customer No. 80548
FLIESLER MEYER LLP
650 California Street, 14th Floor
San Francisco, California 94108
Telephone: (415) 362-3800